FBIS DAILY REPORT

CONTENTS

Latin America

Vol VI No 022 *31 January 1980*

ARGENTINA

Government Maintains Position on Grain Embargo B 1
[LA OPINION 28 Jan]
Soviet Grain Purchase Mission Arrives B 1
No Additional Wheat Available B 1
Export Registry Reopens for Some Grains B 2
Report on Carter Note on Olympic Boycott Denied B 2
Construction of Atucha II Nuclear Plant To Begin This Year B 2
[LA RAZON 23 Jan]

BRAZIL

Saraiva Guerreiro Rejects Grain Embargo Against Soviets D 1
Goodpaster Mission Not Viewed as Failure D 1
Government Accused of Hypocrisy on Afghanistan D 1
Argentina Proposes Lower Trade Barriers With Brazil D 2
[JORNAL DO BRASIL 25 Jan]
Nuclear Energy Agreement Reached With Argentina D 2
Drought May Hurt Soybean Crop in Rio Grande do Sul D 2
[O GLOBO 25 Jan]

COLOMBIA

Mideast Delegation Led by Ben Yahia Meets Turbay F 1
Dynamic Trade Growth With L.A., Caribbean Noted F 1
Top Military Officers To Visit San Andres Island F 1
Briefs: Hoof and Mouth Disease Measures F 1

ECUADOR

Government Official Warns Seditious Group G 1
Government Minister Authorizes Student March G 1

CENTRAL AMERICA

EL SALVADOR

Guerrillas Being Trained in Costa Rica by FSLN P 1
EL INDEPENDIENTE Reports Creation of Rightwing Army [29 Jan] P 1
Border Posts Report on Increased Crossing to Guatemala P 2
[EL DIARIO DE HOY 30 Jan]
Archbishop Supports Insurrection When Other Means Exhausted P 2
[EL INDEPENDIENTE 28 Jan]

NICARAGUA

Leftist Paper Scores FSLN Leadership Methods P 3
[EL PUEBLO 18 Jan]
Commentary on Closing of EL PUEBLO Newspaper P 4
Official Justifies Closing P 4
Radio Sandino Supports Closing P 5
Ortega Defends Action P 6
Archbishop, Journalist Denounce Decision P 6

CUBA

EFE Cites Unpublished Castro Speech on Economy Q 1
Intergovernmental Commission Meeting With Benin Opens Q 2

CARIBBEAN

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

Armed Forces Reaffirm Loyalty to Guzman S 1
Attack on Police Barracks Reported; One Killed S 1
Government Accused of Partisan Hiring Practices S 1

GRENADA

Government To Finance Budget by Floating Bonds S 1
[DAILY GLEANER 23 Jan]

JAMAICA

Manley To Visit Mexico, Meet With Lopez Portillo S 2
Students Demonstrate Over Labor Dispute S 2
Wage Dispute, Demonstration Continue S 3
Student Union Criticizes Government S 3

OTHER COUNTRIES

BOLIVIA

Country Fears Isolation in Dispute Over U.S. Tin Sales V 1
Government Rejects Chilean Railway Tariff Increases V 1
[PRESENCIA 22 Jan]

CHILE

Olympic Committee Decides Not To Attend Moscow Games V 1
Christian Democrats Criticize Soviet Invasion of Afghanistan V 2
Briefs: Antarctic Airbase; Carabineros Commander Resumes Duties; V 2
International Trade Growth

GUYANA

Olympic Association Will Support Government Decision V 2
Al-Qadhdhafi Receives Prime Minister Burnham [cross-reference] V 3
Draft Constitution To Go to Parliament This Week V 3

PANAMA

Japanese Prime Minister Sends Note to President Royo V 3

PERU

Government Announces Increase in Cost of Gasoline V 4

URUGUAY

Navy Commander Comments on Olympic, Grain Boycotts V 4

VENEZUELA

Cuban Government Summons Ambassador Home V 4

GOVERNMENT MAINTAINS POSITION ON GRAIN EMBARGO

FY291511 Buenos Aires LA OPINION in Spanish 28 Jan 80 p 7 FY

[Excerpts] Cordoba--David Lacroze, president of the National Grain Board, has said that the position taken by Argentina on the U.S.-proposed grain embargo against the Soviet Union "has been maintained" after the visit by the U.S. envoy, General Goodpaster--a visit from which "nothing new emerged." He also said that "new contacts between grain-producing countries will be made" to study the measures called for by the United States.

Jorge Aguado, president of the Argentine Rural Confederations (CRA), has stated his total support for the government decision and given assurance that the country itself will not create, through special or regular offers, a situation for conceding or obtaining advantages in the market as a result of the embargo called for by the United States.

SOVIET GRAIN PURCHASE MISSION ARRIVES

FY301509 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1435 GMT 30 Jan 80 FY

[Excerpt] Buenos Aires, 30 Jan (NA)--The members of the Soviet trade mission that has arrived in the country to make the usual purchases of Argentine grains began direct contacts with private exporters this morning. The visit by Soviet representatives of Eksportkhleb, a state enterprise importing foodstuffs, is normal, but this year it has taken on special significance because of the grain sales boycott decreed by the United States against the Soviet Union, a boycott not joined by Argentina.

The Soviet mission is headed by Viktor Pershin, who is accompanied by (Envez Alicutvinov) and Aleksandr Naumov. Their arrival coincided with the reopening of registration for grain exports, which was closed when the U.S. grain embargo against the Soviet Union was announced after the latter country's armed intervention in Afghanistan.

A Buenos Aires morning paper commented, quoting a high official source, that there is "no connection" between the mission just carried out in Buenos Aires by James Carter's envoy Andrew Jackson Goodpaster and the arrival of the Soviet trade mission. The paper added that the announcement of the visit of the Soviet mission was made before Carter's proposal to boycott grain deliveries to the Soviet Union, and that the visit had been arranged through the Argentine Embassy in Moscow and the permanent trade mission maintained in Buenos Aires by the Soviet Government.

No Additional Wheat Available

FY310235 Paris AFP in Spanish 0008 GMT 31 Jan 80 FY

[Excerpts] Buenos Aires, 30 Jan (AFP)--The Soviet trade mission that has been in Argentina since Tuesday today began contacts with local exporters to conclude the purchase of considerable quantities of corn and other grains, reliable sources have reported. Yesterday and today, the Soviet representatives held protocol meetings with Argentine officials, but they did not disclose any information on their talks, which are aimed at the purchase of grains. Reliable sources have reported, however, that they arranged for the shipment of 1 million tons of wheat, which had been purchased before the U.S. grain embargo. The Soviet mission will also negotiate the purchase of a considerable amount of corn and, eventually, of smaller quantities of sorghum and soybeans.

It is believed in grain circles that the Soviet officials will hold their main negotiations with private exporters having limited capacity for storage and sale. These sectors added that the Soviet mission could not buy wheat in addition to the 1 million tons already agreed upon even if it wanted to since the export registry for this product was closed by the National Grain Board, which believes that the sales already agreed upon have exhausted the wheat available for export.

EXPORT REGISTRY RE●PENS F●R S●ME GRAINS

PY300027 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1748 GMT 29 Jan 80 PY

[Text] Buenos Aires, 29 Jan (TELAM)--The Grain Export Registry reopened today for sorghum, corn and soybeans, according to a report released this afternoon by the National Grain Board. The registry has been closed for 21 days following the grain embargo which the United States imposed on the Soviet Union. The registry here had been closed as a technical measure in view of market fluctuations. ●perations in Chicago had also been closed for a few days. The purpose was to prevent maneuvers in the sale of Argentine grains, the danger of which has supposedly subsided today. The National Grain Board did not indicate when the registry for other grains will be reopened.

REP●RT ●N CARTER NOTE ON OLYMPIC BOYCOTT DENIED

PY310108 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2233 GMT 30 Jan 80 PY

[Text] Buenos Aires, 30 Jan (TELAM)--A Foreign Ministry spokesman denied this afternoon that the U.S. mission headed by Gen Andrew Jackson Goodpaster had asked the Argentine Government to join the boycott of the Moscow Olympic games called by the United States. As is known, General Goodpaster visited our country and discussed with President Jorge Rafael Videla the U.S. and Argentine positions on the grain boycott proposed by the United States against the Soviet Union to force withdrawal of its troops from Afghanistan. Also discussed were the international problems caused by the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan and Argentine-U.S. relations.

An AFP report released in Washington today states--among other things--that U.S. President Jimmy Carter has called upon the Argentine chief of state, Gen Jorge Rafael Videla, to have Argentina join the boycott of the Moscow ●lympic games. The report claims that this information was obtained from a high State Department source. The report adds that Carter made the appeal in a personal message which was hand-carried to President Videla in Buenos Aires last week by his personal envoy, Gen Andrew Jackson Goodpaster. In a statement to TELAM this afternoon, high Argentine Foreign Ministry sources flatly denied that such a request had been made or that the Olympic games issue had been discussed with the Goodpaster mission.

C●NSTRUCTI●N OF ATUCHA II NUCLEAR PLANT TO BEGIN THIS YEAR

PY251914 Buenos Aires LA RAZON in Spanish 23 Jan 80 p 5 PY

[Excerpts] During 1980 Argentina will begin construction of the second nuclear plant at Atucha, in the Province of Buenos Aires--in keeping with its reputation as one of the most developed countries in the nuclear field. According to the Latin American Embassy Organization (OLADE) Atucha II will begin operation in 1987.

SARAIVA GUERREIRO REJECTS GRAIN EMBARGO AGAINST SOVIETS

PY291504 Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes Network in Portuguese 1000 GMT 29 Jan 80 PY

[Relayed report from Brasilia by (Carlos Rodrigues]

[Text] Brazil has said no to the trade and economic boycott against the Soviet Union. The Brazilian position was reaffirmed yesterday afternoon by Foreign Minister Saraiva Guerreiro, who held a meeting this morning with President Carter's special envoy, Gen Andrew Jackson Goodpaster. In the afternoon both Goodpaster and Saraiva Guerreiro were received by President Figueiredo. Saraiva said that Brazil will not participate in the grain embargo, but will not take advantage of the situation by increasing its exports. [Begin Saraiva recording] No, we are not going to change our position, but neither are we going to take economic advantage of the situation. [end recording] Saraiva Guerreiro also said that the boycott of the Moscow Olympic games was not discussed with General Goodpaster, and that no decision has yet been made on the subject.

Last night at the U.S. Embassy General Goodpaster said that the U.S. Government is pleased with the Brazilian decision not to seek to fill the gap caused by his country in supplying grain to the Soviet Union. The U.S. general will return to the United States today to report on his contacts in Argentina and Brazil.

GOODPASTER MISSION NOT VIEWED AS FAILURE

PY300255 Porto Alegre Radio Guaiba in Portuguese 0200 GMT 30 Jan 80 PY

[Text] Itamaraty believes that the visit of President Jimmy Carter's special envoy cannot be considered a failure simply because he did not convince the Brazilian Government to join the boycott against the Soviets. Spokesman Bernardo Pericas made it clear that the visit of Gen Andrew Jackson Goodpaster was not intended to cause Brazil to change its well-known position, but to exchange information on the Afghanistan crisis, which was done.

GOVERNMENT ACCUSED OF HYPOCRISY ON AFGHANISTAN

PY291647 Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes Network in Portuguese 1000 GMT 29 Jan 80 PY

[By economic analyst Alberto Tamer]

[Text] The Brazilian decision not to openly join the boycott against the Soviet Union in view of the invasion of Afghanistan only shows the Brazilian Government's shortsightedness in the face of such an important problem. We are for the freedom of peoples and for the self-determination of nations but only, it seems, as long as it doesn't cost us anything. These are only words and nothing else. Speaking in cold commercial terms, is it possible that Itamaraty officials do not yet understand that the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan and the military action in Asia is the first step toward conquering the Middle East petroleum that comprises 90 percent of our supply?

Even in terms of gold, viewing the problem at this level, is it possible that the Brazilian Government does not yet understand that if we do not sacrifice a few million dollars now--since we would make at most $150 million to $200 million for the grain exported to the Soviet Union--we will sacrifice much more in the future when the Soviet Union takes control--and this will not take long--of all the supply outlets on the Persian Gulf? [sentence indistinct]

A country like Brazil, which (?is among the great nations), cannot remain indecisive, sitting on the fence, while even communist countries are disregarding normal divisions and supporting the West.

We are either for or against the aggressive actions of some countries, and for or against the domination of countries by communist regimes.

ARGENTINA PROPOSES LOWER TRADE BARRIERS WITH BRAZIL

PY260141 Rio de Janeiro JORNAL DO BRASIL in Portuguese 25 Jan 80 p 20 PY

[Excerpt] Brasilia--The Argentine secretary for commerce and international economic negotiations, Alejandro Manuel Estrada, has proposed a plan to the Brazilian authorites he met with during the past 48 hours--(Ministers Delfim Neto, Ernane Galveas and Camilo Penna and the secretary general of Itamaraty)--to gradually eliminate the barriers that have hampered trade between his country and Brazil and permit the $1.5 billion mark that was reached last year to be surpassed.

According to the secretary himself, the program he submitted yesterday contains six points: arrangements for closer ties between businessmen; the creation of mixed enterprises; reform of the legislation of both countries; the adoption of standards for technology transfer; the acquisition of financing for joint undertakings; the signing of an agreement to avoid double taxation; and a government-level plan for financing exports.

NUCLEAR ENERGY AGREEMENT REACHED WITH ARGENTINA

PY291730 Sao Paulo Bandeirantes Network in Portuguese 1000 GMT 29 Jan 80 PY

[Text] Brazil and Argentina will sign an agreement on the peaceful use of nuclear energy, and the appropriate use of human and economic resources. This statement has been made by Adm Carlos Castro Madero, president of the Argentine National Atomic Energy Commission.

Establishing the areas of cooperation, Admiral Castro Madero pointed out basic research in various sectors such as physics, chemistry and biology.

DROUGHT MAY HURT SOYBEAN CROP IN RIO GRANDE DO SUL

PY260128 Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 25 Jan 80 p 24 PY

[Summary] Porto Alegre--The president of the Sao Borja wheat cooperative warned yesterday that if a good rain does not fall in 10 days soybean crops will be damaged. He added that 40 percent of the 110,000 hectares planted by the cooperative are at the flowering stage, a critical one for the plants, which are in need of a good rain. There has been no significant rainfall since 29 December.

The Missoes region, which produces 40 percent of Rio Grande do Sul State's soybeans, is also being affected by the dry spell. The superintendent of the Santo Angelo cooperative, 450 kilometers from Porto Alegre, reported that "the crop will not be injured by the lack of rain for another 2 weeks. The damage will begin then. We have 350,000 hectares of soybeans planted, and 50 percent are at the flowering stage. A good rain has not fallen in this region for 23 days, and the warm weather has hastened the blossoming. If the dry weather continues, the flowers will begin to fall, and losses will result."

GOVERNMENT OFFICIAL WARNS SEDITIOUS GROUP

PA310210 Quito Voz de los Andes in Spanish 2330 GMT 30 Jan 80 PA

[Text] The government today charged a seditious group with responsibility for the recent student agitation and warned that it will act firmly within a constitutional and democratic framework.

According to Alejandro Roman, secretary general of public administration, sedition originated with a student group he did not identify but which, according to other official sources, is connected with the Popular Democratic Movement [MPD], a party that follows the PRC's communist line.

Roman noted that neither the workers nor the popular masses had joined the movement and warned that the government will act firmly as long as the [word indistinct] of defending democracy does not begin to contradict the principles of democracy itself.

The official sounded surprised over a charge by the National Committee for the Defense of Human Rights, that rights had been violated through police repression of student demonstrators last week.

Two students died in those disturbances and more than 280 have been arrested and will be tried for damaging private property and carrying out seditious activities.

Roman said that if these charges are verified, the government will adopt measures to punish the unconstitutional actions and prevent their repetition.

He also voiced surprise over a paper's charge that security agents are visiting bookstores to confiscate books printed in Cuba. He promised to investigate this charge as well, adding that the government is respectful of ideological pluralism and that although the government attributes most of the agitation to the MPD, the confrontation between the students and the government has a broader scope.

Meanwhile, the Federation of Ecuadorean University Students has issued a manifesto stating that in view of the high cost of living, the rise in transportation prices and the announced gasoline price increases, the student movement and the other popular sectors have been forced to express their rejection of the measures adopted by the government, which worsen the already critical situation of the majority of the population.

For its part, the MPD has issued a document affirming that, forgetting its electoral promises and mocking the people's vote, the government of the force of change--President Jaime Roldos' electoral slogan--has implemented unpopular measures.

GOVERNMENT MINISTER AUTHORIZES STUDENT MARCH

PA300224 Quito Voz de los Andes in Spanish 2330 GMT 29 Jan 80 PA

[Text] Government Minister Roberto Dunn Barreiro today announced that he has authorized a student march to condemn the Rio de Janeiro protocol through which most of Ecuador's Amazon territory was confiscated. The minister also issued an appeal to the Ecuadorean students to commemorate this sad event for the country in a manner that will not lead to violence and to reject all efforts to manipulate them. I hope, Minister Dunn Barreiro said, that the students and people of my country will cooperate and, with their efforts and good will, maintain the peace and calm that the country desires.

EL SALVADOR

GUERRILLAS BEING TRAINED IN COSTA RICA BY FSLN

PA310420 Paris AFP in Spanish 2333 GMT 30 Jan 80 PA

[Text] San Jose, 30 Jan (AFP)--The newspaper LA PRENSA LIBRE charged here today that Salvadoran guerrillas are receiving military training from the Sandinist National Liberation Front in northern Costa Rica.

According to the newspaper, which attributes its information to reliable sources, the Salvadorans began their training 1 month ago in Guanacaste Province on the border with Nicaragua and are using camps which had previously been used by the Sandinists in their fight against the Somozist dictatorship.

The conservative LA PRENSA LIBRE charged 1 year ago that 5,000 Sandinist guerrillas were being trained in Guanacaste. This report was never confirmed. The paper indicated that the important arms trade which currently operates in northern Costa Rica is related to the alleged presence of the Salvadoran guerrillas.

The newspaper, which attributes part of its information to a local television channel newscast, does not indicate the number of Salvadoran militants in Costa Rica. It does add that they might also be training in other parts of the country, particularly in the south, on the border with Panama.

EL INDEPENDIENTE REPORTS CREATION OF RIGHTWING ARMY

PA310037 San Salvador EL INDEPENDIENTE 29 Jan 80 pp 1, 16 PA

[Excerpt] Reports from northern San Salvador and San Vicente and Usulutan departments indicate that extreme rightwing groups are training "to crush" the communist threat in the country, according to statements of their leaders. The antirevolutionary army is asking former agents of the security forces, particularly of the National Guard, to join its ranks. They are being offered salaries of between 1,500 and 2,000 colones, based on the ranks they held while in service.

"There are currently many desertions in the National Guard and we fear that most of these men will sign up for the rightwing army," a National Guard officer said recently.

It has been said that the training of the rightists is being facilitated by employees who make use of their direct access to files and are linked to the oligarchy which finances the counterrevolutionary army.

The reports indicate the names and the posts of the high-ranking officers who are serving as instructors and leaders of the rightist army. There are also reports that there are Vietnamese, U.S., German and French instructors who are experts in counterinsurgency.

The reports also refer to the placement of unscrupulous individuals at border customs posts to facilitate the smuggling of military supplies into the country. These supplies include weapons, ammunition, light artillery and armored vehicles.

There are also reports that the first phase of the plan to bring in weapons has already begun without detection. [paragraph continues]

Impartial observers note that customs and treasury policemen who will not cooperate with the plan are being transferred to the interior so that their presence at the border posts will not hinder the smuggling of weapons to be used to try to destroy the popular revolutionary movement.

It has been learned that the oligarchy is demanding that the foremen, administrators and workers of their estates join the rightwing army.

The following locations are said to be special training areas: the jurisdictions of Aguilares, Nejapa, Guazapa in northern San Salvador and Santa Catalina and other towns near ranches in Usulutan.

The crimes and attacks against union activities, popular leaders and rural workers in various parts of the country during the past few weeks have been committed by members of this army of the oligarchy.

BORDER POSTS REPORT ON INCREASED CROSSING TO GUATEMALA

PA310017 San Salvador EL DIARIO DE HOY in Spanish 30 Jan 80 pp 3, 40 PA

[Text] An average of 500 Salvadorans a day cross the border to Guatemala, some of them fleeing the situation in El Salvador and others on tourist or business trips. This figure was provided to newsmen by the customs and immigration authorities of Valle Nuevo near Chinamas. This is the busiest border post, due to the favorable conditions it offers and the fact that it has the shortest route and best road. The other border posts in the order of activity are: Angiatu, San Cristobal and La Hachadura.

In Guatemala, government authorities have indicated that there is concern over the increasing number of Salvadorans who are arriving there from El Salvador. A newspaper reported that in the past 2 months, 3,000 Salvadorans have immigrated and in the past year, 10,000. This has led to special preventive measures by the immigration authorities to stop the growing number of Salvadorans who might cause social problems in that country, which is one of the few that has achieved political stability in recent times.

It was reported that on Sunday, 580 Salvadorans entered Guatemala through Valle Nuevo and only 200 returned. The sources added that out of the 142 cars which entered Guatemala only 80 returned.

ARCHBISHOP SUPPORTS INSURRECTION WHEN OTHER MEANS EXHAUSTED

PA302334 San Salvador EL INDEPENDIENTE in Spanish 28 Jan 80 p 1 PA

[Article: "The Doctrines of the Church Justify Insurrection"]

[Excerpts] "We are living in an insurrectional period and the doctrine of the church justifies insurrection when all peaceful means have been exhausted," said the archbishop of San Salvador in his Sunday homily.

He had words of praise for the revolutionary peoples movement and pointed out that "the popular organs have shown power, maturity and the efficiency of reason over violence."

Regarding the activities of the right, which has been bringing arms into the nation and hiring mercenaries, he said "these activities foster communism, the true danger of the nation which they hypocritically denounce."

He appealed to the members of the armed forces to remember that they serve the people and not just a privileged few. "I would like to see them repress with equal fury the violence of the right, which is worse than that of the left and which can be better controlled by the security corps," he pointed out.

He asserted that it is urgent that the government junta quickly show, through the cessation of repression, that it is able to control the security corps, which appears to be a parallel government that is greatly harming the present government. "With each day that passes, because of the repression, the government is weakened and the people are more disillusioned," he emphasized.

On the possibility of a civil war, he said it depends on the right but that he does not consider it very near. "We are living in an insurrectional period and the doctrine of the church justifies insurrection when all peaceful means have been exhausted," he stressed.

He did not rule out the possibility of a rightist countercoup. "A rightist countercoup could take place if the young officers do not hold their positions and eliminate at its roots all the evil that exists in the armed forces," Monsignor Romero asserted.

The archbishop is leaving for Belgium today to receive an honorary doctorate from a university of that nation as a sign of solidarity with his valiant defense of human rights and its absolute indentification with the Salvadoran people.

NICARAGUA

LEFTIST PAPER SCORES FSLN LEADERSHIP METHODS

PA260157 Managua EL PUEBLO in Spanish 18 Jan 80 p 2 PA

[Editorial]

[Text] The Sandinist National Liberation Front [FSLN] enjoys great prestige among the mass movements and is no doubt interested in preserving this so it can continue to act to expand its role in the present political process. It is quite understandable that FSLN members are making efforts to establish the front's permanent leadership. But this is related both to line and orientation and to the methods used.

Let us start with the methods. It is evident that in the labor, popular, peasant and youth movements, various leaders are acting against the will of the masses. Thus we see attempts to impose union leadership without the support of the rank and file. In state factories (such as plywood) orders have been issued to allow entry only to Sandinist Labor Central [CST] members, and in some places union members have been jailed.

To these practices we must add others, like wanting the Sandinist Defense Committees [CDS], instead of being popular power and mass organs, to become nondecisionmaking [no resolutivas] structures, not open to broad and democratic debate, in which the masses do not decide anything, or hardly anything.

They also expect trade unions to accept a single directorate and decisions made by others instead of by its members, in open violation of the Marxist principle of the independence of trade unions.

It is obvious that those applying these erroneous methods do not trust the people to voluntarily accept their guidelines. They can always claim that the people do not understand these things and that they can be confused. For this reason it is best not to allow them to think. This type of reasoning can get one into trouble.

The result of all this has been contrary to what was expected. The people in this country are revolutionaries and are struggling to make more progress in a social revolution without impositions or tremendous actions. To act any other way will only lead to isolation.

To stop people from quitting or refusing to join mandatory organizations, it is necessary to implement guidelines and principles that represent the people's aspirations and to establish adequate working methods.

Therefore an FSLN cadre which faces difficulties with the people's movement should not try to undertake any big project or blame others for mistakes.

COMMENTARY ON CLOSING OF EL PUEBLO NEWSPAPER

Official Justifies Closing

PA261818 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 0300 GMT 26 Jan 80 PA

[News conference granted by Nicaraguan Deputy Interior Minister Hugo Torres to unidentified reporters in his office on 25 January--recorded]

[Excerpts] [Question] Commander, it has been said the closing of EL PUEBLO can be considered a violation of freedom of the press.

[Answer] There are only two sides to a revolution, revolutionaries and counterrevolutionaries. There is no third side. There are Sandinists, those who side with the Sandinist peoples revolution, and there are those who side with the reactionaries no matter what language or clothing they use and regardless of whom they may confuse. Therefore, we think there is total press freedom in this country--more than in any other--but not license or the right to offend or the right to boycott production. There is press freedom within the guidelines established by the revolution.

[Question] It has been said there are other legal means for intervening against EL PUEBLO, that it should not have been done the way it was. The end does not justify the means.

[Answer] Every arrest is depicted as being as repressive as under Somoza. Such statements offend us. Arrests, raids, confiscations or the closures of newspapers such as this one are conducted by an armed force that behaved as our force did when it closed this paper. It did not beat or insult anybody. It simply closed down the paper and confiscated equipment that did not even belong to the paper. We will present proof of that. The equipment belonged to the Somozists. Therefore, (?an explanation) will be given. The ministry will release a statement. All we did was to carry out orders and instructions issued by the upper echelons.

[Question] What about the proceedings against the newsmen who were arrested?

[Answer] The cases that have to be prosecuted will be pursued according to procedure. Proof will be presented to justify their arrest.

[Question] Is that all you have to say?

[Answer] Yes, unless you have any more questions.

[Question] There is a very interesting point, Companero. The newsmen who are (?with) the revolution say Nicaragua is experiencing a revolutionary process, that there is full freedom and so you can criticize the revolutionary leaders. However, the criticism appearing in some media is not constructive but opens the way for the reactionaries.

[Answer] We understand that even though the genocidal National Guard disappeared and we do not see the enemy carrying a Galil Rifle--that now is the role of our glorious Sandinist People's Army--even though the enemy is not in sight, we have covert enemies in this revolution. We know they are making efforts to curb our process. They are trying to throw a monkey wrench in the machinery through economic pressure, by sabotaging production, by sabotaging factory work, by attacking our leaders and so forth. In addition to that, they are working to create a climate conducive to their operations.

Radio Sandino Supports Closing

PA261822 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1200 GMT 26 Jan 80 PA

[Station commentary]

[Excerpt] There is full freedom of speech in Nicaragua but this does not mean that reactionaries have the right to use this freedom to unleash an ideological war against our revolution. Let all Nicaraguans be aware of who their friends and enemies are inside and outside the country. Let all Nicaraguans know how to identify the enemies of our revolution who, claiming to be great revolutionaries, are trying in every way to distort the Nicaraguan reality through the use of the reactionary media. It is clear that these pseudorevolutionaries are already falling into the hands of the Sandinist government because our authorities cannot and must not allow such elements to tarnish the greatness of our revolution.

Companeros Nicaraguans, do you know what the meaning of ideological diversion [diversionismo ideologico] is? Well, it is a kind of ideological struggle--a weapon used by the enemy to distort and destroy the revolutionary movements of the world. Not only that, companeros, this subtle and poisonous weapon is being used by the reactionaries of our country mainly through the reactionary or counterrevolutionary news media in order to undermine the just cause and the progress of our Sandinist process. Notwithstanding this, the use of ideological diversion does not originate here. It is the result of an imperialist policy aimed at stopping the liberation movements of the oppressed peoples of the world. For this reason, all those who oppose this Sandinist process are agents of international reaction and imperialism. The Government of National Reconstruction and the Sandinist National Liberation Front, genuine representatives of the Nicaraguan people, proceeded to partly control the diversionist agents by closing the newspaper EL PUEBLO, used by its editors to spread their poison throughout the Sandinist popular revolution.

Several EL PUEBLO newsmen are being held in Sandinist jails pending investigations. The same will happen to those radio broadcasters who, just like EL PUEBLO's newsmen, are only looking for the smallest mistake of our leaders to launch their shameful attacks against them and hence against the Nicaraguan people.

Ortega Defends Action

PA301709 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 0300 GMT 30 Jan 80 PA

[Speech to demonstrators by junta member Daniel Ortega at 29 January meeting at Government Palace--recorded]

[Excerpt] The members of the Workers Front [FO], the Confederation for Unity of Trade Unions [CUS] and the Nicaraguan Workers Central [CTN] are engaged in counterrevolutionary actions. Why do we say this action is counterrevolutionary? We say this because they are not interested in uniting the labor movement but in dividing it. They want to divide the labor movement, not because they are completely identified with the working class but because they identify with the enemies of the working class and would like to create conditions that would make it possible for the imperialists--the enemies of our revolution--to intervene, to attack us in order to impose the order that the Somozists were unable to achieve.

There are millions [as heard] involved in those plans. There are countries, or rather certain parties in some countries, as well as forces within the United States, who are involved in this effort, who are paying newsmen, pseudonewsmen who formerly received money from the Somozists, pseudonewsmen who have no morals, pseudonewsmen who have not the minimum moral authority to criticize this revolution, because in our revolution one must earn the right to criticize, and these people, this corrupt element, are receiving money to say, for example, that everything is wrong here. They will say, for example, that we are violating labor's right to organize and that the right to freedom of the press is being violated because the so-called newspaper EL PUEBLO has been closed.

These people act in this manner simply because they are the enemies of our people and of our revolution and because, by exploiting the difficulties of our revolution, they want to undermine it in order to carry out counterrevolutionary actions, and our revolution is not going to permit this.

Archbishop, Journalist Denounce Decision

PA310026 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2321 GMT 29 Jan 80 PA

[Text] Managua, 29 Jan (ACAN-EFE)--Writer Pablo Antonio Cuadra, codirector of the local daily LA PRENSA, and Miguel Obando Bravo, archbishop of Managua, today spoke out against the authorities of the Sandinist revolution using force to repress the mass communication media.

In a LA PRENSA front-page article, Cuadra notes that the answer that Comdr Bayardo Arce gave to those who called for legal proceedings in the case involving the closure of the daily EL PUEBLO is "unacceptable and harmful to the national and international prestige of the Nicaraguan revolution."

Arce had said: "Here the revolution is the source of law and what has happened to EL PUEBLO could happen to other means at the service of the counterrevolution."

The leftist morning newspaper EL PUEBLO had been characterized by the country's authorities as "counterrevolutionary." It was closed last week by members of the Sandinist Peoples Army (EPS) who seized machinery, material and office equipment and arrested two journalists and a contributor who were in the offices at the moment.

Leaders of the revolution said later that EL PUEBLO was founded in 1979 with money from five Nicaraguan millionaires, each of whom contributed 50,000 cordobas ($5,000).

The newspaper has also been accused of opposing the guidelines established by the economic reactivation plan for 1980 and of provoking destructive attitudes in construction factories and installations of this capital.

This afternoon thousands of persons from the Sandinist Workers Central (CST) marched through part of the Nicaraguan capital to the Government House to state the support of their mass organizations for the Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction and for the leadership of the Sandinist National Liberation Front in connection with their action in the EL PUEBLO case.

Representatives of the CST, the Farm Workers Association, the 19 July Sandinist Youth, the "Luisa Amanda Espinoza" Women's Association, the National Association of Nicaraguan Teachers and the Sandinist Defense Committees condemned all counterrevolutionary manifestations and asked that the machinery from the newspaper that has been intervened be passed to the "national literacy campaign" that the state will initiate in March.

Pablo Antonio Cuadra notes: "Certainly, in the creation of a new republic, the revolution is the source of law, and it is precisely for this reason that the revolution cannot be a source of abuses." Cuadra adds: "The revolution is not an abstract entity. It is not an invisible deity. It is a solidaristic enterprise carried out by men, and in order to be able to live, these men need a legal system, with laws and rules of the game. Without them it is impossible to achieve an understanding under which a society can be built and the liberation process can develop."

Cuadra notes: "What the commander of the revolution somewhat contemptuously calls 'bourgeois legal red tape' is universal and essential in any civilized society that takes pride in being that, because without it either we fall into anarchy or we fall under totalitarianism--power without control,--the ill effects of which we know and have endured for 50 years."

The archbishop of Managua today issued a radio appeal calling for a reconsideration of attitudes such as that taken against the daily EL PUEBLO. Msgr Miguel Obando Bravo stated: "Freedom of expression, setting aside all ideologies, is necessary. I believe that the exercise of freedom of expression should be allowed for the good of the nation."

The Catholic prelate urged the country's authorities to permit freedom of expression. He cautioned that "the revolution cannot be a source of arbitrariness." "May God enlighten our authorities that they may reconsider their attitude and the people may enjoy an authentic peace, a true peace," he added.

The archbishop of Managua recalled that the war of liberation waged against the Somoza dictatorship "was a collective effort by all the Nicaraguan people who wanted to secure justice, peace and liberty."

EFE CITES UNPUBLISHED CASTRO SPEECH ON ECONOMY

PA300424 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2037 GMT 29 Jan 80 PA

[By Angel Antonio Garcia Munoz]

[Text] Havana, 29 Jan (EFE)--In an unpublished speech, Cuban President Fidel Castro has thus summed up his country's current economic situation: "We are sailing in a sea of difficulties." The speech, delivered almost 1 month ago, is now being played on video tape for the members of the Communist Party of Cuba. In it Castro makes what might be termed a harsh analysis of economic prospects for 1980.

The speech, obtained by this agency despite its highly restricted circulation, is lengthy and includes a review of the most varied aspects of Cuban affairs.

Firstly, Fidel Castro stressed the important contributions made to the national economy by such sectors as fishing and seafood in general, which brought some $100 million to Cuba in 1979; the citrus exported to the socialist countries, which brought in another $50 million; tourism revenues, which exceeded $100 million and the several tens of millions brought in by construction workers abroad.

This year, Cuba will face a "drastic cut"--to use Castro's words--in the construction industry, particularly in the construction of hospitals and schools. Still, their maintenance will be improved with "three times as many resources, but at higher prices."

In analyzing the two principal areas of Cuba's economy, President Castro pointed out that the sugarcane disease known as "rust" will affect harvests by more than 1 million tons and that, as a result of this, the 8-million-ton goal will not be achieved. According to Fidel Castro, last year the disease known as "blue mold" attacked the tobacco plantations in midharvest and this year it has again been detected in many of the plant nurseries.

Aside from the raw materials deficit affecting Cuba, many of the island's industries will also be affected in 1980. For this reason, Castro affirmed, there will have to be a provisional "reduction in the labor forces," without this meaning a definitive reduction. This problem will affect an undetermined number of workers who will be subsidized but will not receive full wages.

Regarding Cuba's relations with the Soviet Union and the rest of the socialist countries Fidel Castro did not sound very optimistic, except in regard to the aid his country receives directly from the USSR.

In the face of problems resulting from the unfilfillment of commitments (he cites the case of Soviet lumber, of which 500,000 tons were to have arrived in 1979, but only 140,000 tons were received), Castro said in his report that the possibility of sending Cuban workers to other socialist countries to obtain whatever resources might be sent to Cuba is currently being studied.

Regarding this, Fidel Castro recalled that a country that has has "as many as 36,000 soldiers in Angola and 12,000 others in Ethiopia" could organize a brigade of 10,000 volunteers to go to Siberia to cut the wood Cuba needs. But this, he notes, is merely an idea under consideration.

Nonetheless, Castro sounded optimistic when evaluating the prospects offered by the 5-year plans and he stressed the "privilege of being able to obtain help from the socialist countries" at a time when there is a tremendous world crisis.

Castro underscored that all of the 600,000 tons of wheat consumed in Cuba come from the USSR; that Cuba is receiving $0.44 a pound for its sugar, while world market prices are below the $0.10 mark; and that Havana is paying only 70 pesos (about $91) for each ton of oil supplied by the Soviet Union. Later in his speech--televised by closed circuit for party members--Fidel Castro pointed out that, due to the socialist bloc's current economic difficulties, if the Cuban revolution were taking place now "it would be very difficult to obtain the advantages we now have."

Regarding the political changes that have occurred in the past few weeks, the Cuban president used a very descriptive phrase: "No one in this country was born holding posts."

After reviewing certain "privileges," such as the allocation of cars and houses, Castro added that it is necessary "that all those factors and elements, privileges, weaknesses, negligences and irresponsibilities which irritate the people be radically suppressed." The document obtained by this agency states that these privileges must be abolished. For this reason, instructions have been given that no leader can bring in [to the country] gifts or purchases made while on trips abroad and that it is absolutely forbidden to repair the house of any cadre as long as the current serious situation persists in the construction sector.

Commenting on the political changes, Fidel Castro noted that despite their revolutionary merits, "there are comrades who have not efficiently carried out their task" and, therefore, "there is no alternative but to replace them." After pointing out that the first law of the socialist Republic of Cuba must be "exigency and efficiency" the Cuban president affirmed that although "most of our cadres are far from being corrupt," several persons have not lived up to expectations and must be replaced. According to Fidel Castro, "the intersts of the revolution must be above any other consideration, even above any merit." Castro defended the thesis that nobody should be removed from a political post because of unpopularity, adding that this type of concession cannot be made if the person is efficient.

The Cuban president concluded his speech by noting that it is necessary to wage a battle against "our deficiencies, our weaknesses and our faults," because "if we think that after 20 years everything has been resolved, that the struggle has come to an end--if anybody believes that--he is mistaken."

INTERGOVERNMENTAL COMMISSION MEETING WITH BENIN OPENS

FL301848 Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 30 Jan 80 FL

[Text] Working sessions of the second intergovernment meeting between Cuba and the People's Republic of Benin opened this morning at the Sierra Maestra Hotel. The delegations of the two countries are headed by Francois Doussou, Benin's minister of planning, statistics and coordination of foreign trade; and Santiago Riera, minister-president of the Cuban State Committee for Prices.

A scientific and technical cooperation protocol for the 1980-81 period will be signed at the end of this second intergovernmental meeting.

MIDEAST DELEGATION LED BY BEN YAHIA MEETS TURBAY

PA290333 Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 2330 GMT 28 Jan 80 PA

[Text] The topic of exchange between the Arab world and Latin America was included in the agenda of a talk held in Bogota between President Julio Cesar Turbay Ayala and ministers of Mideast countries. At the end of the talk, Moroccan [as heard] Foreign Minister Mohamed Ben Yahia said that they had discussed complementing our economies. In this area, he added, there is much to be done between the two blocs. The official was surprised by the broad scope of viewpoints expressed by Turbay Ayala regarding the Mideast conflict. I am sure the Arab chiefs of state will be satisfied with the report that I submitted to them on the results of my talks with the president, the foreign minister said in French, which was interpreted by Salim Naffa', the Lebanese ambassador to Colombia.

DYNAMIC TRADE GROWTH WITH L.A., CARIBBEAN NOTED

PA290512 Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 2330 GMT 28 Jan 80 PA

[Text] Colombia reported today a dynamic growth in its exports to the Caribbean Common Market in transactions which registered increases of up to 98 percent. Colombian foreign trade officials noted that the country presently has positive trade balances with most Latin American countries. They indicated that countries with which Colombia has had favorable trade, in addition to the Andean Pact countries, are Chile, Mexico, Cuba, Haiti, Panama, and the Dominican Republic.

The operational PROEXPO [Export Promotion Fund] program presented by Manuel Jose Cardenas, director of that organization, stresses the government's interest in strengthening trade relations with countries of the Caribbean. Trade companies recently created by law are available for this purpose.

TOP MILITARY OFFICERS TO VISIT SAN ANDRES ISLAND

PA291628 Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 1100 GMT 29 Jan 80 PA

[Text] Defense Minister Gen Luis Carlos Camacho Leyva, Navy Commander Adm Gilberto Barona (Gil) and Air Force Commander Raul Alberto Paredes Diago will arrive on San Andres Friday to assess conditions there in view of Nicaragua's reiterated claim to sovereignty over Serrano, Roncador and Quitasueno days and San Andres and Providencia islands. Never before has the island seen such large-scale military deployment. Four air force fighter planes patrol the Caribbean, while several national navy ships patrol the islands and cays. More than 500 Marines are stationed on the island. A public collection is being taken to provide aid for some 20 Nicaraguans who were transferred to Cucuta some days ago because there was no work for them on the island.

BRIEFS

HOOF AND MOUTH DISEASE MEASURES--The government has ordered a quarantine of animals in the Bogota savanna and the (Huate) and (Quinquiquiram) valleys to eliminate hoof and mouth disease. As part of an ambitious plan, the Agriculture Ministry has prohibited the gathering of cattle, hogs and sheep in these areas, has banned storage of animal products and byproducts and has forbidden the holding of fairs and expositions. Under the plan, vaccinations will be scheduled for January, February and May. The local cattlemen have stated their support for the plan. [Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 2330 GMT 25 Jan 80 PA]

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

ARMED FORCES REAFFIRM LOYALTY TO GUZMAN

FL301134 Santo Domingo Radio Mil Network in Spanish 1000 GMT 30 Jan 80 FL

[Text] The Armed Forces Secretariat has reaffirmed the obedience of the armed forces to the civilian government headed by President Antonio Guzman. In a communique released in the wake of rumors of a guerrilla landing on the Manzanillo coast, the Armed Forces Secretariat said that the armed forces support, with reservations, the government led by Guzman. In the communique, the secretariat also denied that the alleged guerrilla landing took place. The communique goes on to say that the armed forces carry out their activities within the provisions of the Constitution and laws.

ATTACK ON POLICE BARRACKS REPORTED; ONE KILLED

FL301142 Santo Domingo Radio Mil Network in Spanish 1000 GMT 30 Jan 80 FL

[Text] Moca--Agents of several police departments are searching for a third person involved in the attack perpetrated Sunday morning against the police barracks in the city of Moca. So far, the identity of this person has not been disclosed although it was reported that police already know where he is.

(Jose Antonio Tavera) is under arrest in connection with the attack on the Moca police barracks and he has confessed to having participated in it. The second person involved in the attack, mechanic (Rafael Cruz Tejada), was killed Monday in a shootout with a police patrol. Police reported yesterday that (Cruz Tejada) had the weapon of police Pvt (Gregorio Castillo Ramirez). Pvt (Juan Bautista Gonzalez) was also wounded in the attack on the Moca police barracks.

GOVERNMENT ACCUSED OF PARTISAN HIRING PRACTICES

FL301210 Santo Domingo Radio Mil Network in Spanish 1000 GMT 30 Jan 80 FL

[Text] Rogelio Delgado Bogaert, leader of the Christian Social Revolutionary Party (PRSC), yesterday accused the Dominican Revolutionary Party (PRD) government of political discrimination. Delgado Bogaert said: This Christian Social government forgets that the right to work does not apply just to PRD members.

The PRSC leader charged that at some secretariats, such as Public Works, no Dominican is employed unless he shows a PRD identity card or a letter of recommendation from a local party committee. Delgado Bogaert said that with this discrimination, the PRD government is promoting hypocrisy. Regarding this view, he pointed out that he knows scores of men and women who have to pretend to belong to the PRD so as not to lose their jobs.

GRENADA

GOVERNMENT TO FINANCE BUDGET BY FLOATING BONDS

FL261720 Kingston DAILY GLEANER in English 23 Jan 80 p 12 FL

[Excerpt] The Government of Grenada is to finance its budget by the floating of bonds on the international market, which will be redeemable after 20 years with seven per cent interest every six months.

This was stated last week Tuesday by the Grenadian ambassador to Cuba, Mr. Richard Jacobs who was in Jamaica on a private visit. He left for Cuba last Wednesday.

Mr. Jacobs told a press conference at Pegasus Hotel, New Kingston, that since the People's Revolutionary Government took power from the Gairy regime ten months ago, it had made impressive gains, the most important of which being the sense of freedom Grenadians now enjoyed. According to him corruption, police brutality and sexual exploitation had been eradicated.

The ambassador said that the government was now in the process of preparing a budget and that it hoped to finance its programme through the floating of loans.

It is anticipated that when all the programmes come on stream, unemployment would be wiped out within six of seven years. One thousand jobs have been created in the area of construction of new roads, feeder roads and agro-industrial products, since the March 12 revolution, he said.

A sophisticated state planning agency was being developed with the help of friendly countries and a national import board had been set up and was now importing cement, sugar and rice, and would be importing 15 other items eventually.

Mr. Jacobs said that a (EC) $7 1/2-million low-income housing scheme was now underway as well as a home repair programme. The EC$16 million airport project being built with Cuban and Venezuelan assistance started on January 1, and should be completed within the next 18 months.

The ambassador said that the medical service was now well staffed and equipped. There was a new eye clinic and a new maternity block and a comprehensive health programme with emphasis on the preventive rather than the curative aspect of medicine was being worked out.

JAMAICA

MANLEY TO VISIT MEXICO, MEET WITH LOPEZ PORTILLO

FL302314 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2230 GMT 30 Jan 80 FL

[Text] Venezuela's daily EL DIARIO DE CARACAS today comments that Jamaican Prime Minister Michael Manley's upcoming visit to Mexico will make it possible for the two countries to discuss the further development of relations. The possibility that the Mexican Government may sell oil to Jamaica on better terms than Venezuela is one of the main reasons for Manley's visit to Mexico City next February. The daily adds that Mexico, without being a member of OPEC or the Andean Pact, is conducting a new foreign policy aimed at closer ties with Central American and Caribbean countries. The Caracas daily recalls that Mexican President Jose Lopez Portillo recently traveled to Nicaragua and plans to visit other countries in the region in the near future.

STUDENTS DEMONSTRATE OVER LABOR DISPUTE

FL251827 Kingston Domestic Service in English 1730 GMT 25 Jan 80 FL

[Text] Students at the College of Arts, Science and Technology--CAST--have blocked off a section of Hope Road near the institution to draw public attention to the prolonged disruption of classes arising from an industrial dispute between CAST lecturers and the government.

A conciliation meeting set for today to try to reach a settlement to the dispute has been postponed until Monday by Labor Minister Howard Cooke who returned to Jamaica last night after a trip to Canada. A spokesman for the labor minister said he had to attend a Cabinet meeting which was summoned for today.

The demonstration and road block started after the students learned of the postponement of the conciliation meeting, and the flow of traffic in the (Pepin) area is being disrupted as a result of the protest. Classes at both CAST and the Jamaica School of Agriculture have been seriously affected since the start of this term because of the dispute over a wage offer which was withdrawn by government after service teachers had accepted it late last night.

Wage Dispute, Demonstration Continue

FL291554 Kingston Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 29 Jan 80 FL

[Text] Another attempt is now being made at a meeting at the Ministry of Labor to settle the wage dispute involving academic staffers at CAST [College of Arts, Science and Technology] and the JSA [Jamaica School of Agriculture] and the government.

The meeting follows an assurance given to the academic staffers on Friday that Labor Minister Howard Cooke would take the issue to Cabinet yesterday for a review. Today's talks are expected to deal with the results of the Cabinet review.

Meanwhile, it is understood that students at CAST are still demonstrating to back their demand for an end to the ongoing wage dispute. The dispute concerns the withdrawal of a wage offer by the government which was accepted by the CAST and JSA academic staffers last year.

Student Union Criticizes Government

FL301545 Kingston Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 30 Jan 80 FL

[Text] As the disruption of classes at CAST [College of Arts, Science and Technology] and the Jamaica School of Agriculture continues, yet another group has issued a call for an immediate solution to the present impasse.

In a release, the Union of Democratic Students urged the government to act responsibly on matters relating to the economy in order that the dispute with the lecturers at CAST and the JSA may be resolved. The UDS strongly criticized Public Service Minister Howard Cooke for the manner in which he has been dealing with this situation. The student body said Mr Cooke's foot-dragging was a direct consequence of the government's failure to reject the harsh terms of the IMF.

The Union of Democratic Students emphasized that many youths who have specific final examinations in June have [words indistinct] classes for over 4 weeks and, as a result, their academic future was in jeopardy.

In the meantime, efforts are being made to have the dispute between the government and academic staffers brought before the industrial dispute tribunal before the end of this week.

BOLIVIA

COUNTRY FEARS ISOLATION IN DISPUTE OVER U.S. TIN SALES

PY301558 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 1109 GMT 30 Jan 80 PY

[Text] La Paz, 30 Jan (LATIN)--The Bolivian Government has expressed fear that the other tin-producing countries will end up accepting the sale of 35,000 tons of U.S. tin reserves.

Mining and Metallurgy Minister Oscar Bonifaz stated yesterday that "it is not very probable that the tin-producing countries--except Bolivia--will persist to the end" in their rejection of the U.S. plan to sell its strategic tin reserves. Bonifaz explained that "Bolivia may be left alone in its anti-U.S. action in this field," because the economies of the other producers (Thailand, Malaysia, Australia) do not depend exclusively on the sale of tin, but also on the export of rubber, chestnuts, palm oil, petroleum and other products. Bonifaz added: "The other producers will therefore fight to a certain point, but then they will become cautious; we Bolivians will remain alone."

The minister also refuted press reports originating abroad regarding an alleged Bolivian withdrawal from the International Tin Council. A Bolivian delegation will go to Thailand to attend a meeting of tin-producing countries on 13 February.

GOVERNMENT REJECTS CHILEAN RAILWAY TARIFF INCREASES

PY261908 La Paz PRESENCIA in Spanish 22 Jan p 9 PY

[Excerpts] Bolivia has rejected the Chilean imposition of 95- to 305-percent increases in railway tariffs on the Arica-Charana line. During a press conference, Ernesto Rivero, head of the Bolivian delegation, stated that the delegation viewed the Chilean decision as an open attack on the Bolivian economy and called the measure "irrational and unjustified."

The meeting of the joint Bolivian-Chilean commission was held at the port of Arica, where Chile could give no technical or financial justification for its intention to increase the railway tariffs, according to the transport secretary's statement.

Rivero regretted that the talks initiated in Chile on 14 January had ended without positive results and said that there are also no prospects that the talks may be resumed in the near future. He asserted, however, that the Transport Ministry is carefully studying the strategy to be applied, which includes the systematic rerouting of cargoes through other ports in order to prevent harm to the economy of the nation.

CHILE

OLYMPIC COMMITTEE DECIDES NOT TO ATTEND MOSCOW GAMES

PY301555 Santiago Chile Domestic Service in Spanish 1000 GMT 30 Jan 80 PY

[Excerpt] Chile will not go to Moscow 80. The decision was made at a general meeting of the federations of the Chilean Olympic Committee. With this decision, the federations have ratified the proposal made by the Chilean Olympic Committee board of directors, supported by the recommendation made by President Pinochet.

CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATS CRITICIZE SOVIET INVASION OF AFGHANISTAN

FY302307 Paris AFP in Spanish 1529 GMT 30 Jan 80 FY

[Text] Santiago, 30 Jan (AFP)--The Chilean Christian Democratic Party (PDC), now in recess, today criticized the Soviet intervention in Afghanistan and harshly condemned the Chilean Communist Party's attempt to justify the "invasion."

In a declaration released here, the PDC states that "these attitudes are extremely serious and should cause repercussions because they reveal that, to defend their interests, both Soviet and Chilean communist leaders justify repressive methods, persecution of men for their beliefs and attacks on sovereignty and freedom of peoples." The PDC declaration adds that "the Chilean Communist Party's position reinforces the charge that it attaches greater importance to its subordination to the Soviet Communist Party than to the Chilean people's efforts to restore democracy and freedom." In 1973 the PDC and other center and rightwing political movements were declared "in recess" by the Chilean Government, while Marxist groups were outlawed.

BRIEFS

ANTARCTIC AIRBASE--Santiago, Chile, 17 Jan (AFP)--According to Gen Javier Lopetegui, chief [of staff] of the Chilean Air Force, the first Chilean Antarctic air force base will be dedicated at the end of February. It will be able to accomodate Otter twin turboprop planes. The airbase will be located on the mainland, approximately 2,000 meters northeast of President Frei base on the Chilean Antarctic peninsula and 2 kms from the Soviet base on King George Island. [Paris AFP in Spanish 2245 GMT 17 Jan 80 FY]

CARABINEROS COMMANDER RESUMES DUTIES--Gen Cesar Mendoza, commander of Carabineros and member of the military junta, has resumed his duties after returning from Easter Island, where he conducted an inspection tour. [Santiago Chile Domestic Service in Spanish 1630 GMT 24 Jan 80 FY]

INTERNATIONAL TRADE GROWTH--Chilean exports and imports in 1979 totaled $7,981,000,000, the highest amount in the country's history. In comparison to 1978 Chilean trade increased by 47.5 percent. The countries with which Chile had the most trade are: the United States, with $1,378,000,000; the FRG, with $866 million; Brazil with $745 million; and Japan with $334.4 million. Trade with these four countries accounted for 46.5 percent of Chile's import and export activity. Exports in 1979 totaled $3,763,000,000, increasing by 56.3 percent in comparison to 1978. Nontraditional exports totaled $1,210,000,000, and copper sales $1,700,000,000. Imports totaled $4,217,000,000, an increase of 40.5 percent over those of 1978. [Santiago Chile Domestic Service in Spanish 1000 GMT 24 Jan 80 FY]

GUYANA

OLYMPIC ASSOCIATION WILL SUPPORT GOVERNMENT DECISION

FL252112 Kingston Domestic Service in English 2030 GMT 25 Jan 80 FL

[Excerpts] The Guyana Olympic Association has said it will support whatever decision government takes over the treaty by some countries to boycott the 1980 Moscow Olympic games to force the withdrawal of Soviet troops from Afghanistan. The Guyanese Government has already criticized the Soviet Union over the issue but it is yet to state whether it will support the boycott call being led by the United States.

AL-QADHDHAFI RECEIVES PRIME MINISTER BURNHAM

For reportage on the visit of Prime Minister Burnham to Libya and other Middle East countries, see the 18 January and subsequent issues of the Middle East & North Africa DAILY REPORT.

DRAFT CONSTITUTION TO GO TO PARLIAMENT THIS WEEK

FL302057 Kingston Domestic Service in English 2030 GMT 30 Jan 80 FL

[Text] The draft of Guyana's new socialist constitution will go before parliament on Friday for final approval before becoming supreme law in the republic. The constituent assembly, which was preparing the draft, had its final sitting on Monday and the 140-page document is to be formally handed over at Friday's sitting. The debate is likely to take place subsequently with the probable date of implementation being February 23d.

The opposition People's Progressive Party, which boycotted the sittings of the constituent assembly because of dissatisfaction with the outcome of a constitutional referendum, has not yet indicated whether it would attend a sitting of parliament. The draft of the new constitution proposes a switch from the constitutional or figurehead president to an executive president with strong powers, a dozen more seats for parliament and local government reorganization.

PANAMA

JAPANESE PRIME MINISTER SENDS NOTE TO PRESIDENT ROYO

PA301254 Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 2315 GMT 29 Jan 80 PA

[Text] The Japanese businessmen's delegation which visited President Royo this morning delivered a letter to him from Japanese Prime Minister Masayoshi Ohira. Following is the text of the latter:

Your Excellency Mr President: I have the honor of acknowledging receipt of your courteous letter dated 4 January and of expressing to Your Excellency my great satisfaction over the fact that the traditional relations of friendship between Panama and Japan have been gradually consolidated with the passing of time and, in addition, have grown stronger in recent years.

I have been told that Mr Shigeo Nagano, president of the Japanese Chamber of Commerce and Industry, and other leaders of my country's business world will be visiting your country and will hold talks with Your Excellency and with your nation's other leaders on the project to construct a second Panama canal, among other topics. It is my desire that exchanges of high-level personalities, such as this one, will further promote the relations between our two countries.

Your Excellency's coming visit to Japan, slated for late March of this year, causes me great happiness. It will be a great pleasure for me personally to exchange views with Your Excellency on various topics, such as our bilateral relations and international events.

I take advantage of this opportunity to express my best wishes for the personal well-being of your excellency and for the prosperity of your nation.

[Signed] Masayoshi Ohira, Prime Minister of Japan.

PERU

GOVERNMENT ANNOUNCES INCREASE IN COST OF GASOLINE

PA211215 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 1418 GMT 20 Jan 80 PA

[Text] Lima, 20 Jan (LATIN)--The government officially announced today an 8-percent increase in the price of gasoline. An official communique states that the increase is to compensate for changes in the costs of production and other incidental factors such as international prices. "Despite these increases, the government continues to absorb the difference in prices on the internal market in order to safeguard the budgets of the national majorities," the communique says. Effective today, [an imperial] gallon (4.5 liters) of 84 octane gasoline will increase from $0.80 to $0.87 and 95 octane gas will rise from $0.96 to $1.05. The most recent increase in gasoline prices was decreed in September.

URUGUAY

NAVY COMMANDER COMMENTS ON OLYMPIC, GRAIN BOYCOTTS

PY301959 Montevideo El Espectador Network in Spanish 1500 GMT 30 Jan 80 PY

[Relay from Montevideo port]

[Excerpts] Navy Commander in Chief Vice Adm Hugo Marquez discussed several topics of national interest during an interview with the press media. The interview took place after a ceremony launching two new fishing boats, the (Ovin I) and the (Promopez I). One of the topics discussed in the area of current events was the international boycott of the Olympic games. The following is what Marquez had to say about the Uruguayan position on this matter.

[Begin Marquez recording] I cannot give my personal opinion regarding the Olympic games because of my position in the government. I cannot give an opinion without having previously discussed it with the president and the other commanders, because the government's decision is everybody's decision. If I gave you my opinion it would probably compromise the government's decision. But there is something I can say regarding the unilateral decision of the United States to implement boycotts of grain and the Olympic games. This decision is straightforward and clear, but it collapses of its own weight. In my opinion, we and the Americans protest and talk about the Russian satellite countries, but in some ways our situation is very similar to theirs. The Russians decided to invade Afghanistan, and after doing so they sought the approval and support of their satellite countries. The same thing has happened with the United States. They have decided on boycotts of grain and the Olympic games and now ask our support. I believe that the United States should have first consulted all the countries on this idea of a boycott and then implemented its decision. [end recording]

VENEZUELA

CUBAN GOVERNMENT SUMMONS AMBASSADOR HOME

PA301408 Paris AFP in Spanish 1340 GMT 30 Jan 80 PA

[Text] Caracas, 30 Jan (AFP)--Cuban Ambassador to Venezuela Norberto Hernandez Curbelo left this morning for Havana at the summons of his government. It was learned that the decision was made by the Cuban Government simultaneously with the statement issued yesterday by the Cuban Foreign Ministry in the wake of security measures taken by the Venezuelan authorities around the Cuban Embassy.